

**CECIL TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE REGULATING DOGS
RUNNING AT LARGE AND THE BARKING, HOWLING AND EXCESSIVE NOISE
OF DOGS;**

1. It shall be unlawful for the owner or keeper of any dog to fail to keep at all times such dog either:
 - a. Confined within the premises of the owner;
 - b. Firmly secured by means of a collar and chain or other device so that it cannot stray beyond the premises on which it is secured; or
 - c. Under the reasonable control of some person, or when engaged in lawful hunting, exhibition or field training (3 P.S. 459-305);
 - d. It shall be illegal within the Township for any person or persons to own, possess, harbor, or control any animal which makes any noise continuously and/or incessantly, or makes such noise intermittently, which is generally continuous, repetitive, or recurring to the disturbance of any person any time of the day or night. This ordinance shall apply regardless of whether the animal is physically situated in or upon private property. Said noise shall be considered a nuisance; provided, that at the time the animal is making such noise, no person is trespassing or threatening to trespass upon private property in or upon which the animal is situated nor is there any other legitimate cause which justifiably provoked the animal.

Exceptions. This part shall not be deemed to prohibit or otherwise declare unlawful any agricultural operations protected from nuisance suits by Act. No. 1982-133.
2. The duty of administering and enforcing the provisions of this Ordinance is hereby conferred upon the Animal Control Officer, the Zoning Officer, the Code Enforcement Officer, the township Police Department, or upon such other person as may be designated by Resolution by the Board of Supervisors, provided such designee may not hold any elective office in the Township. It shall be the responsibility of the Animal Control Officer or such other person as may be designated by the Board of Supervisors to enforce this Ordinance, to notify any person owning or possessing or believed to own or possess any dog which is running at large and/or is causing excessive noise that said person or persons are in violation of this Ordinance and subject to the penalties described herein.
3. In determining whether said noise, barking or howling, shall be frequent, long, or excessive so as to disturb the conform or repose of the persons residing in the vicinity where the animal is kept, the Animal Control Officer or Board designee, may take into account the totality of the circumstances, including but not limited to, the zoning area in which the alleged violation has occurred.
4. Any person who shall be advised by the Animal Enforcement Officer and/or the designee of a violation of this Ordinance, shall immediately take all necessary actions to cause said violation to cease and/or terminate. Upon a second or subsequent notice of violation, the responsible person shall be subject to

prosecution for violation of this Ordinance as a Summary Offense. Therein any person who shall violate any provision of this Ordinance, shall upon being found guilty thereof of a first offense, pay a fine not less than \$100.00 and not more than \$300.00 plus all Court costs, including reasonable Attorneys fees incurred by the municipality in regards to the enforcement thereof. A second conviction for a violation shall subject the person who violates the same to a fine of not less than \$200.00 and not more than \$400.00. A third or further conviction shall subject the person who violates the same to a fine of not less than \$300.00 and not more than \$500.00. Any and all convictions shall also require the responsible party to pay any and all Court costs and/or Attorneys fees incurred by the Township in regards to enforcement of this Ordinance. Each day that a violation shall occur shall be deemed a separate offense. It is further ordained and enacted that the aforesaid fines and/or sanctions may be changed by Resolution of the Board of Supervisors.